

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this patent application. By this amendment, claims 13-20 have been canceled, and claims 1-4 and 6-11 have been amended, and claims 21-30 have been added. Reconsideration of this patent application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4-5 and 11-12 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim. Such rewriting has been done in accord with the Examiner's suggestion. Thus, claims 4-5 and 11-12 are believed to be in proper form for allowance.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejection

Claims 1-2, 6-9, and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Paillot (FR 2,612,784). Claim 13 has been canceled, and claims 1-2 and 6-9 have been amended. Reconsideration of claims 1-2 and 6-9, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Discussion Re: Patentability of Claims 2 and 6

Each of claims 2 and 6 depend directly from presumably allowable claim 4. For at least this reason each of claims 2 and 6 is believed to be in allowable form.

Discussion Re: Patentability of Claims 8 and 9

Each of claims 8 and 9 depend directly or indirectly from presumably allowable claim 11. For at least this reason each of claims 8 and 9 is believed to be in allowable form.

Discussion Re: Patentability of Claim 1

Among other limitations, amended claim 1 recites the following:

wherein said reservoir has a first coupling configured to removably connect said guide catheter to said reservoir, and
wherein said reservoir further has a second coupling configured to removably connect said inner catheter to said reservoir.

Paillot's reservoir does not possess first and second couplings configured to removably connect the reservoir to the guide catheter and the inner catheter, respectively. It is axiomatic that anticipation of a claim under 35 U.S.C. § 102 is proper only if the prior art reference discloses each and every element of the claim. Since Paillot does not disclose each and every element of Applicants' amended claim 1, Paillot does not anticipate Applicants' amended claim 1.

Discussion Re: Patentability of Claim 7

The discussion relating to the patentability of amended claim 7 is relevant to the patentability of amended claim 1. As a result, amended claim 7 is allowable over Paillot.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection

Claims 3 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Paillot (FR 2,612,784) in view of Ensminger (U.S. Patent No. 5,531,684). Each of claims 3 and 10 have been amended. Reconsideration of claims 3 and 10, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Discussion Re: Patentability of Claim 3

Claim 3 depends directly from presumably allowable claim 4. For at least this reason claim 3 is believed to be in allowable form.

Discussion Re: Patentability of Claim 10

Claim 10 depends directly from presumably allowable claim 11. For at least this reason claim 10 is believed to be in allowable form.

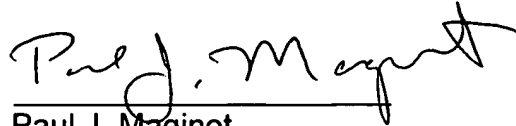
Newly Added Claims 21-30

Newly added claims 21-30 recite novel and nonobvious limitations. Thus, each of claims 21-30 is allowable over the cited art.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Action to that end is hereby solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Paul J. Maginot". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

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